

Neighborhood, nations focus of SBC meeting

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — "Jesus: to the Neighborhood and the Nations," is the theme for the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting on June 19-20 in New Orleans, SBC President Bryant Wright has announced.

Drawn from Luke 24:47-48, the theme is worded to convey the importance of dual missions at home and abroad, Wright

said. "Sometimes people feel like it's either/or, that they must focus on those at home to the neglect of those in the uttermost parts," Wright said.

"Sometimes people are so focused on the uttermost part that they neglect their own neighborhood, their own mission field. ...[S]ome people

see SBC on p. 7

CWJC

Outstanding marks



OUTSTANDING AWARD — Present when the Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) of Central Mississippi won an award for excellence were (from left) Jean Roberson, national Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) ministry consultant; Tammy Anderson, Mississippi WMU missions consultant; Annie Shirley, graduate and president of the board of CWJC of Central Mississippi; Robin Mabry, site coordinator, CWJC of Central Mississippi; David George, WMU Foundation president; and Sandra Nash, state CWJC/Christian Men's Job Corps coordinator for Mississippi WMU. (BP photo)

Christian Women's Job Corps of Central Miss. receives top national honors for excellence

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP and local reports) — Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) of Central Mississippi in Jackson, a ministry of the national and Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union (WMU), has been recognized by the national CWJC program as the 2012 Outstanding Site for its work lifting up downtrodden women and giving them the skills to make their way through life.

A grant from the national WMU Foundation that accompanies the Outstanding Site award will be used to set up classes for

participants in forklift safety and certification training compliant with Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards, site officials said.

"What's unique about our site is we are the only faith-based, nonprofit organization in our area where women teach women and minister to the whole woman," said Robin Mabry, site coordinator since 2009.

Established in 2000, CWJC of Central Mississippi offers a variety of classes including practical application Bible study, house-

hold budgeting, HIV and STD awareness and testing, women's health, computer literacy, and parenting skills.

"We have found that our students excel in light industrial environments, unlike clerical environments," she said. "It raises

see CWJC on p. 6

Nominees sought to fill MBC 2013 posts

The 2012 Committee on Nominations approved by the messengers of the 176th Mississippi Baptist Convention will soon begin reviewing the trustee/board member positions on the boards and commissions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention (MBC) to serve in 2013. According to Gordon Sansing, committee chairman and member of First Church, Brandon, there will be a limited number of vacancies to be filled on the following boards and commissions:

- Baptist Children's Village
- Baptist Health Systems, Inc. (Jackson)

- Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc. (Memphis)
- Board of Ministerial Education
- Education Commission
- Historical Commission
- Blue Mountain College
- Mississippi College
- William Carey University
- Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission, Inc.
- Mississippi Baptist Convention Board
- Mississippi Baptist Foundation

The Committee on Nominations will work with the heads of the institutions

and agencies to bring a list of nominees to be approved by the messengers of the 177th annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention on October 30-31 at First Church, Jackson.

Nomination forms are available from Executive Administration — Brenda Box, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. E-mail: bbbox@mbc.org. Telephone: (601) 292-3201 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 201.

Completed forms should be mailed to the Committee on Nominations, Executive Administration at the above address to be received no later than May 1.

Inside

Directions...
Sunday School...
Lessons...
Editorial...
Bibliography...
How to Become a Christian...
Revivals & Homecoming...
Just for the...
Classifieds...

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From the editor

WILLIAM PERKINS

ABORTION CLINICS

Pulling back the curtain

One of the most perverse arguments put forth by the pro-abortion lobby both in this state and nationally is that without the easy availability of legal abortion during all nine months of pregnancy, women will naturally revert to being victims of unsanitary and unsafe "back alley" abortions like in the old, desperate days. Abortion apologists always sprinkle their argument with frightening images of reused coat hangers, bloody tables, and life-threatening infections.

Legalized abortion, so they say, has liberated women from such dangerous conditions and brought on a new era of safe and sanitary health care for them in modern, sterile clinics. No longer do hesitant, would-be mothers have to be concerned about the medical consequences of abortion. That's all changed since abortion was brought out of the aforementioned back alley.

Really? These folks must have been living for quite some time in a cave somewhere.

Physician Kermit Gosnell ran a licensed abortion clinic in a poor neighborhood of Philadelphia, Pa., right next door to the local pizza parlor. The New York Times quoted Sherry Thomas, a one-time patient at Gosnell's clinic: "It was like walking into a nightmare," she said. "Everyone was sedated, no one was making sense. People were slumped over and waiting in line like they were going into a soup kitchen."

A grand jury investigation reported that federal agents conducting a drug raid on the clinic found squalid conditions that included a dirty turtle tank in the lobby, blood and urine on the floors, and even cat excrement on stairs.

"Semi-conscious women scheduled for abortions were moaning in the waiting room or the recovery room, where they sat on dirty recliners covered with blood-stained blankets," the grand jury report stated.

"The clinic had as little regard for the patients' dignity as it had for their safety," the New York Times article observed. "The doctor would arrive late, often after 8 p.m., leaving the untrained staff, including Dr. Gosnell's wife, Pearl, a cosmetologist, to sedate the women and administer labor-inducing drugs, the report said."

The "walk in the park," as Gosnell described Thomas' pending abortion to her, didn't turn out so well, according to the Times article.

"Ms. Thomas remembers waking

up, soaked in her own blood and feeling scared. People were moving around her, trying to put her in an ambulance. Her uterus had been punctured. She was rushed to the hospital, where she was given a partial hysterectomy."

"When I woke up I thought, 'I might die today,'" Ms. Thomas said. Dr. Gosnell offered her \$500, she said, possibly in an effort to avert a lawsuit. She had paid \$800 for the abortion."

Gosnell has been criminally indicted for the deaths of patients under his care at the clinic and for cutting the spinal cords of a number of late-term babies born alive during botched abortions, to hasten their deaths. The federal agents also reported that Gosnell kept a collection of severed baby feet in glass jars around the clinic.

Now comes word that Diane Derzis, who runs the only abortion clinic in Mississippi on State Street in Jackson, has been forced by Alabama health officials to shut down a sister clinic in Birmingham due to manifold problems in that legally-licensed facility.

In a scathing, 76-page report compiled by the Alabama Department of Public Health after three of Derzis' clinic patients had to be rushed by ambulance to local hospitals in one day, those health officials found among many violations:

- Clinic staff was not properly trained in patient care.

- No documentation that abortionists brought in by Derzis to perform procedures in the Birmingham clinic were even qualified to do so under Alabama laws and regulations.

- Derzis' doctors submitted documentation for patient care that was simply false.

- Lack of documentation on medications administered and altered notations on patients' charts.

- Use of equipment with expired inspection dates or no inspection dates at all.

- Failure of the on-call nurse to return patients' calls about complications, and failure to notify clinic physicians of patient problems.

Yes, legalized abortion and licensed clinics have resulted in great advancements for American women, haven't they? Society is much better with legalized abortion, aren't we?

So, when are we going to learn that repeating the same mistakes and expecting a better outcome the next time is the very definition of insanity?

Eyes are on SBC name change

Ed Stetzer, president of LifeWay Research, a division of LifeWay Christian Resources in Nashville, wrote an April 5 Guest Opinion entitled, *Accept New Name; Act Like It, Too*. He supports a name change for the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). I want to voice a different perspective.

Ever since 1903, there have been attempts to change the name of the SBC. Each time, the proposed change was defeated.

At the September 19-20, 2011, meeting of the SBC Executive Committee in Nashville, SBC President Bryant Wright announced a task force to study the name change. The motion for convention attorneys to study the issue was defeated by a vote of 39-20.

An unofficial presidential task force recommended an add-on description — Great Commission Baptists (GCB). The plan is to provide a final report in time for the SBC annual meeting June 19-20 in New Orleans.

I attended a senior adult meeting several months ago where a church planter was speaking. He talked about his church plant and at the end people asked questions. One person asked, "Why do you not have Baptist in the name of your church?" I was surprised at his answer.

He stated that Southern Baptists have a bad name and history. He talked about how years ago Baptists owned slaves. One gentleman who knew me said sarcastically after the meeting, "Well, I guess I need to go home and check on my slaves."

I am weary of people bringing up slave history and how bad the SBC name is. I was educated in institutions of the SBC. I am proud of my Baptist heritage. I am tired of people trying to degrade the SBC. From my perspective, the SBC has a rich history of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Whenever a natural disaster occurs, governments call upon SBC Disaster Relief to respond. Our reputation is the best in this area, and it has nothing to do with being Southern.

Stetzer stated that we need to stop bickering and infighting. He needs to remember an important fact. This action of the president and his task force was not sanctioned by the Executive Committee or the messengers of the SBC. To bring about change, one must follow the process established. Nobody likes to feel that



Guest opinion

with Michael Weeks

they are being run over or ignored.

There is another issue which will have a lost world laughing even more. The add-on name is Great Commission Baptists (GCB). The ABC television network has launched a new television series named GCB. The full name is derogatory toward Christians. Do we really want to have a name where we are potentially demeaned in such a manner? Imagine how people will laugh at the SBC. Why invite this grief upon ourselves?

Most people are not negative toward SBC, but our leaders want to convince us of that attitude. The truth is we live in an anti-Christian country where condemnation of Christians is the new political correctness. At every turn, our government and society as a whole are antagonistic toward us.

I am a sinner saved by the grace of God. I am held accountable for my sin and must live with the consequences. Nowhere in the Word of God do I find that I must pay for the sins of others. When people associated with the SBC make bad decisions, they should be held personally accountable.

I am thankful for salvation through Jesus Christ. I am grateful for the call to serve as a pastor. I have been proud of my SBC heritage. However, I am uncertain of the days ahead for the SBC.

At a time when Cooperative Program giving is down, do we really want any division? How appropriate is it to undermine the process and shame people into submission to change the name? I am afraid of the negative impact this will have on the SBC and its future.

The true thermometer of this issue will be seen from the local church and its support of the Cooperative Program.

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Postmaster:
Send changes of address to: The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530.

Send news, communication, and address changes to: The Editor, Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530.

Tel: (601) 968-3800
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BAPTISTS

VOLUME 136 • NUMBER 16 • ISSN-0005-5778

Published weekly except weeks of July 4 and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, 515 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$10.35 per year payable in advance. Economy plans available for cooperating Mississippi churches. Periodicals postage paid at Jackson, MS. Member, Association of State Baptist Papers. Deadlines: News items — one calendar week prior to requested publication date. Advertising — two calendar weeks prior to requested publication date. All submissions are subject to editing.

Sharing the vision

NAMB head explains strategy amid concerns from leaders

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — North American Mission Board (NAMB) President Kevin Ezell has participated recently in a pair of video conferences aimed at directors of missions and church planting catalysts, to explain the board's initiatives in church planting and evangelism at a time when several state convention leaders have expressed concerns with NAMB's direction.

Other leaders, meanwhile, have voiced support for the mission board's strategy.

In a March 6 video conference, Ezell largely focused on NAMB strategy for increasing the birthrate of Southern Baptist churches, redeploying missionaries, and shifting the board's budget.

"Our mission is to penetrate lostness. We feel like the stronger churches are in North America, the stronger our overall mission will be throughout the world," he said. "The International Mission Board is supported by churches in North America, so the stronger the churches are here, we will penetrate lostness literally around the world."

NAMB's goal is 5,000 additional Southern Baptist congregations in the next 10 years, Ezell said. To do that, the convention must increase its birthrate and decrease its death rate for churches.

By 1900, the Southern Baptist Convention had one church for every 3,800 people in North America, Ezell said. In 2010, the ratio was one church for every 6,100 people.

"We're losing ground. In the last 10 years, in the Southern Baptist Convention, we have averaged losing 880 churches a year," Ezell said. "Obviously we have to plant 880 just to break even, and we've not been doing that."

Missiologists recommend one church for every 1,000 to 2,000 people, Ezell said, and some state conventions in the South are achieving that goal. Mississippi has one Southern Baptist church for every 1,375 people, for example, but in New Jersey it is one for every 76,384 people.

"That's why we're focusing on church planting," Ezell said.

One strategy NAMB hopes to employ is for 10 churches from each association to plant two churches a year for the next decade, and another is to have one church planting catalyst for every one million people in new work regions.

"Part of our problem has been our missionaries were not appropriately

distributed across North America," Ezell said. "We have 3.5 million people in Connecticut and do not have a fulltime church planting catalyst there. ... Then we have other state conventions that might have five million people and they have 23 missionaries."

"There was no rhyme or reason about how these were strategically located, so we're trying to go back and strategically place them throughout North America. ... They'll be located in areas with the highest population, and we're encouraging them to shoot for a goal of four new churches every year," Ezell said.

Regarding the board's budget, Ezell said, "We have regionalized. We have downsized our staff in Alpharetta by well over 100 people, and every dime of the money that

we have either transitioned out of a state budget or out of our budget here in Alpharetta is going to those regions, going to church planter missionaries and church plants."

NAMB's goal is to devote half its budget to church planting, and currently 42-43% percent of the budget goes to those efforts, Ezell said.

"We do a lot of other things than just church planting. I made a mistake from our first year when I wanted to help us refocus on church planting," Ezell said.

"...My mistake was I just talked about church planting. The reason I did that was to try to get the Southern Baptist Convention to focus on that need. This year we're going to go back and make certain people understand we're still doing the other things. But we have to have a sense of focus here."

Concerns expressed

In January, leaders of the California Southern Baptist Convention distributed a report detailing how changes at NAMB will impact their work. The report contained seven specific concerns stemming from NAMB acting "unilaterally," and most of the concerns were about funding. Also included in the report were NAMB's responses to the concerns.

CSBC is now functioning in an unknown relationship with NAMB that, in many ways, has abandoned cooperation," the report said at the outset. "The current relationship with NAMB is now a top-down decision-making relationship where NAMB dictates its mandates, strategy and financial support outside a formal, cooperative understanding of relationship."

NAMB, in response, said executive directors in various state conventions agreed to draft a new customizable outline for relationships between NAMB and state conventions. That new template is still being formulated, NAMB said.

Rick Lance, executive director of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, told board members in February that NAMB's emphasis on church planting inhibits its partnership with Alabama Baptists.

NAMB has not articulated how its church planting model compares with the model utilized by Alabama Baptists, Lance said, and has not satisfactorily honored the historic cooperative agreement process between the mission board and state conventions.

"Does the North American Mission Board want to have missionaries in Alabama who are not church planters?" Lance asked, also expressing concern over reduced funding from NAMB.

"...Alabama needs NAMB, and NAMB needs Alabama, but NAMB needs Alabama more than we need NAMB."

Emil Turner, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, also expressed concern about the way NAMB is relating to its partners.

"Of greater concern to me than the impact on Arkansas is the impact on our partners that have to reach the pioneer areas," Turner said. "I am very much concerned that the North American Mission Board strategy for planting churches does not guarantee that churches that are planted will be marked by Baptist distinctives."

"Their strategy undermines the strength of the churches they plant as they defund associational work and church support."

Bob Mills, executive director of the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, said two changes that will hit his convention hardest are NAMB's decision not to provide insurance for missionaries in Kansas and Nebraska who receive less than half of their salary from the mission board and NAMB's decision to alter the funding formula for the two-state convention.

"These two changes will cost our convention and local associations significant dollars," Mills wrote in the convention's newspaper in February. Noting NAMB's shift toward a key emphasis on church planting, Mills wrote, "Kansas-Nebraska, other state conventions and local associations do not have the luxury of being so single focused."

In Ohio, messengers to the state convention last fall passed two resolutions dealing with changes being initiated by NAMB. One resolution said the funding formula change "will require an estimated three million dollars be added" to the state convention budget by Ohio Baptists.

The resolution requested that NAMB reconsider decisions "which will threaten a potentially disastrous impact" on the missions effort of Ohio Baptists.

The second resolution requested that NAMB trustees "continue their financial support of their missionaries in Ohio,"

defining missionaries as associational directors of missions, Baptist Collegiate Ministry directors, and employees of Ohio's eight mission centers as well as church planters.

Jack Kwok, executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, said at the time his state qualifies as an "under-reached and underserved mission field," using terminology included in the Great Commission Task Force report approved by the SBC in 2010.

In February, state convention executive directors appointed a special committee "to evaluate how state conventions and NAMB can maximize cooperation during the transition process of implementing the new NAMB initiatives."

Turner, immediate past president of the executive directors' fellowship, said the committee desires to "cooperate with NAMB in a way that helps strengthen new work conventions."

Strengthening churches

Leaders in at least three state conventions have been on record in recent months supporting Ezell's efforts at NAMB.

Garvon Golden, a longtime leader in the Dakota Baptist Convention who was elected executive director in March, said the two-state convention will focus on strengthening churches and planting evangelistic churches.

"...Even with some of the changes that have been made, and some of the directions that NAMB is going, they remain a very valuable partner in helping us reach the Dakotas," Golden said. "We want to see the cities of the United States reached for Christ as well as the rural and isolated areas of the West, and we want to be cooperative partners with NAMB in accomplishing this."

The Dakota convention is facing financial challenges stemming from changes at NAMB, but Golden said the convention will take more financial responsibility for its work and will operate with a smaller staff.

Kirk Baker, president of the Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention, wrote in a column submitted to Baptist Press that changes at NAMB are spurring his convention to a necessary restructuring that has been put off for years.

"I wanted to encourage Kevin Ezell by letting him know that many pastors like myself see the changes coming from NAMB as positive," Baker, pastor of Calvary Church in Idaho Falls, Idaho, wrote. "We see it as our opportunity to line up our work for Kingdom growth."

At their annual meeting last fall, leaders of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists also were on board with NAMB despite difficulties brought on by changes.

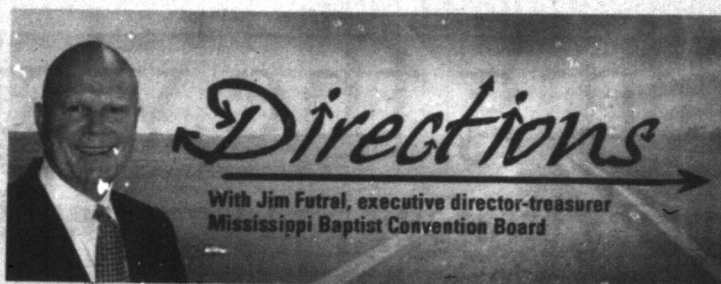
West Virginia approved a reorganization plan that opens the door to a greater potential for starting churches and reaching more people for Christ, said Terry Harper, the state convention's executive director.



EZELL

Everyone sneezes. Even dogs and cats, horses and rats sneeze. A sneeze is an uncontrolled reaction to stimulation usually in the nose area. While we all sneeze, virtually everybody has their own little unique package of how they sneeze. There is the almost quiet, unseen, and unheard sneeze. There is the sneeze with a warning which is usually a couple of gulps of air, eyes squinted, face contorted, and look out because I am about to sneeze. Then there is the wall shaking, earth quaking, you can hear for two blocks sneeze.

I got to thinking about sneezes the other day when I was in a public place and there was a man who sneezed. It rattled the windows and knocked a couple of pictures off of the wall. Since we were the only two standing there I said, "God bless you!" He said, "Thank you, but there is more to come." I said, "Really!" He said, "Yes that is the first of 10." I said, "Really!" He said, "Yes and then he sneezed again." I said, "Well, it is that time of the year and the pollen is as thick as it can be and everybody seems to be wrestling with various kinds of allergies and stuffiness." He said, "No, that is not my problem." Then he sneezed again. He said, "I do this all year and it always comes in a series of 10." I said, "Really!" He said, "Yeah I do not understand it, but that is the way they come." I said, "That is amazing! I have never met anybody that had that kind of series of sneezes." Then he had his number four sneeze



Sneezes

and said, "It probably does get worse in the spring and summer when it is dusty and pollen is in the air, but I have it all year." Then there was the eruption of sneeze number five. I said, "Man, I wish that I could help you, but I do not have any idea what I could do." He said, "There is nothing to do. I just have to get through it." Then he sneezed number six. Well, honestly, I had heard about enough at three or four so I said, "I hope that you get better soon." He said, "Oh, I will," and then number seven exploded. At that point I was out of there and gone. About 20 or 30 paces away I heard the arrival of number eight. I kept on walking.

I am sure or fairly confident that sneezes number nine and 10 were

close behind, but I did not feel that I would be needed and so I went on about my business. Later I thought that I probably should have asked him how many times a day that happened? What did he do if he was in a meeting, or happened to be speaking, or if it woke him up at night? When the sneezes were in process I did not think that any of those questions were appropriate or needed. But for those of you who do not care about the rest of us when we have allergies or sneeze, you need to be brought into the spiritual circle of the sensitivity of sneezing. For the few of you who may be unenlightened allow me to shed maybe just a match worth of light on the subject.

In 2 Kings, chapter 4, there is an amazing story that involves the death of a young man. Elisha, the great prophet, comes on the scene and after some efforts to revive him or resurrect him nothing worked. Elisha then stretched out upon the young man and then got up and walked back and forth across the room. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes. It is interesting that the sneeze recorded in verse 35 indicates that there was genuine life still in this boy.

Taking that picture and that wonderful story from Scripture, pause for a moment and consider what there is about your life that is evidence of the fact that there is spiritual life within you. The spiritual sneezes in life say we are alive in the Lord. Look at the fruits of the Spirit. Things like love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, meekness, temperance, and faith are expressions that the Spirit of God is living within us and bringing His life to be seen and shared. Those things may be seen as the spiritual sneezes that show there is real life here. If those things are not seen, it may be saying a great deal about your real spiritual condition. Yet if there is the life of God residing in you and you begin to see the flashes of life in those things that are exhibited in the sneezes of life that is a good thing.

The author can be contacted at jfutral@mbcb.org.

Correction

► On page six of the April 12 issue of *The Baptist Record*, the day of the Fifth Sunday Night Sing at Old Hebron Church, Jefferson

Davis County, was erroneously listed as Friday. The correct day is Sunday, April 29, beginning at 6 p.m. The music of Duke and Linda Barnes will be featured, followed by a fellowship.

B I B L I O C I P H E R

CEL JVVGAEU ZTVE DONZN CN XO

SCJGOL, XO NCAPX, FOXVJL PXO JCBF

VR UVL! DVXE VEO: PXAYPQ-NAK

Clue: F = B

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Isaiah Forty: Eight
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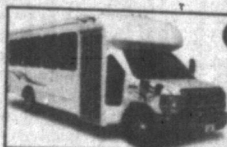
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IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH IN VICKSBURG MISSISSIPPI IS SEEKING INDIVIDUAL FOR FULL TIME YOUTH MINISTER AND ASSOCIATE PASTOR. Please send resume to Immanuel Baptist Church Attn: Personnel Committee, 6949 Hwy 61 South, Vicksburg, MS 39180 or email to IBC_personnel@yahoo.com or contact Michael Bull at 601-218-5325.



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What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.



Matthew 10:27 NAS

April 19, 2012

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.


MISSISSIPPI BSU Adopt a Summer Missionary deadline: May 15, 2012

Your church can help support Mississippi college and university student summer missionaries in the work that God has called them to do this year. Some specific ways you can help:

-  **Pray** – these students need your daily prayers as they serve.
-  **Provide** – provide small things they may need while they serve on the field. Some ideas of what to include in a care package: Wal-mart gift cards; small toiletry items; notes of encouragement to open throughout the summer; supplies they may need for ministry.

If your church would like to adopt a Mississippi BSU summer missionary, go to our Web site, www.missionsnow.net, choose "Churches" and "Adopt a Missionary" to complete the form online.

Contact Peggy Powell in the Collegiate Ministry Department with questions — 601-292-3299.



Tractor
LIVING IN SYNC WITH GOD

Malachi accused God's people of leading lives that were "out of sync" with the Lord. This new Four-Sunday emphasis asks believers to return to the Lord (3:7), remember His commandments, and respond in generosity (3:10-11). When we do, God will multiply our witness among our neighbors, and bless our land (3:12).

Contact Lisa Leavell at 601.292.3347 or lleavell@mbcb.org for more information on this new resource.

2012 Senior Adult Day Retreats

FBC, Batesville May 29 Preacher Mickey Dairymple Brandon	FBC, McComb May 22 Preacher Wayne VanHorn, MC	15th Ave. BC, Meridian May 24 Preacher Chuck Kelley President of NOSTS
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Breakout Sessions to include:
Shaping Up to Share, Fun Time Sharing the Good News, Grandparent Bible Storytelling, New Beginnings in the Senior Years, Teaching the Story of Jesus from the Psalms, Choir, Gatherings

Cost: \$5 at the door or one week before the registration date to reserve the full week. Mail Registration Fee: MCB Conference Office, P.O. Box 530, Jackson MS 39205 or call 601-748-1651, ext. 216

MISSISSIPPI KIDS CAMP 2012



Camp I – June 25-27, 2012
Camp II – June 28-30, 2012

Central Hills
Baptist Retreat
Kosciusko, Miss.

COST \$150

FOR KIDS WHO HAVE COMPLETED GRADES 7-8

Registration open now!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Worship
- Church Bible Study
- Adventure Ropes Course
- Horseback Riding
- Archery/Rifery
- Fishing



CHAMPION OF GRACE

Day Retreat for Single Adults (Ages 20-38)

Saturday, May 26, 2012

Pearl River Association Center, McNeill (close to Picayune)
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Cost: \$20; Registration open now
Send payment to MCB Conference

Mail registration fee to MCB Conference Office,
PO Box 530, Jackson MS 39205; or, to pay with credit
card, call Jo Wesson at 800-748-1651, ext. 216.

For more information: 601-798-2372 or prba@hugos.net or
www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=168452363225348. DVDs for promotion
of this retreat will be available.

VISIT CAMPUS

Going to college this fall?

Have you considered calling
the Baptist Student Union?

We would like to be your first stop in helping you find
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- Meet the BSU director
- Get helpful general information
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- Learn about BSU
opportunities when
you arrive

For contact info about
the campus you plan
to attend, go to our
website:
www.mbc.org/BSU

Collegiate Ministry
601.292.3299
800.687.2736



2012 State Single Adult Day Retreat — North

Saturday, May 19, 2012 | 10 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.
At Central Hills, Kosciusko | 662-289-9730 or
dramage@mbcb.org

Cost: \$20; Deadline to register: May 11

To register, call Jo Wasson at
800-748-1651, ext. 216, or mail
registration fee to: MBCB Conference
Office, PO Box 530, Jackson MS
39205

For more information call Glenn Shows at
800-748-1651, ext. 373, or e-mail
gshows@mbcb.org



MBCB Student Connect Camps *A Tradition of Excellence at an Affordable Price* 2012

3 Camps to Choose from

Session I:

June 4-7

Central Hills

College Park

Speakers:

Gary Farmer

Session II:

June 7-10

Central Hills

College Park

Speakers:

Gary Farmer

Session III:

June 11-14

East Mountain

College Park

Speakers:

Gary Farmer

For more information contact Rene Edwards at
601-292-3283 or redwards@mbcb.org, or contact Kim Hall at 601-292-3285 or kimhall@mbcb.org

25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

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JULY 16-20, 2012

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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WORSHIP LEADER



ADULT SCHOOL LEADER



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June 17-18, 2012

COME JOIN THE FUN! GARAYWA 2012 MISSIONS CAMP FOR GIRLS

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open now!**

Register online at www.garaywa.org.
For more information, please contact
Karen at 601-924-7034.

DATES

Missions Camp
for Students:

June 25-29
July 9-13

Missions Camp for Girls:

June 11-15
June 18-22
June 25-29
July 2-4 (Mini Camp)
July 9-13
July 16-20
July 23-27



WWW.GARAYWA.ORG

2012

PREACHING CONFERENCE

First Baptist Church, Batesville, April 23

First Baptist Church, Starkville, April 24

First Baptist Church, Newton, April 25

Register online at: www.mbc.org/pc2012. For more information
call: (601) 292-3305 or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 305,
or e-mail: cwtaylor@mbc.org.

LAD CAUSADER DAY



RA Bible Telling, fishing tournament,
campcraft/field competitions,
chow and tell, speak-out competition,
mission project banner competition, and more!

STATEWIDE RACER COMPETITION MAY 5, 2012

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. / Central Hills Baptist Retreat, Kosciusko
57 / Bring your own lunch. Drinks provided

Pray this day for...

April 20 – May 3, 2012

"This saying is trustworthy: For if we have died with Him, we will also live with Him; if we endure, we will also reign with Him; ... if we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself." — from 2 Timothy 2:11-13

Pray for: **Megan Fraiser***, IMB missionary ministering to Southeast Asian Peoples in the United States through community outreach and encounter evangelism.

Pray for a team of 10 from **Highland Colony BC, Ridgeland**, traveling to the Dominican Republic to minister through construction, April 23-29.

Pray for a team of two from **FBC, Louisville**, traveling to Southeast Asia to minister through evangelism, April 24 – May 1.

Pray for: **David* and Gloria* Glaze**, IMB missionaries ministering to Deaf Peoples in the United States through media consultation and promotion.

Pray for: **John* and Sonia* Grady**, IMB missionaries ministering to American Peoples in the United States through church and home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for a team of 12 from **Heucks Retreat BC, Brookhaven**, traveling to Guatemala to minister through rebuilding, April 16-22.

Pray for: **Robert* and Margaret Fortenberry**, IMB missionaries ministering to Sub-Saharan African Peoples in Botswana through church and home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: **Earl* and Ramona Hewitt**, IMB missionaries ministering to Sub-Saharan African Peoples in the United States through medical missions, church and home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: **Raymond* and Cynthia Hodgins**, IMB missionaries ministering to Deaf Peoples in the United States through sports evangelism, church and home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: **Jeffery* and Liesa* Holeman**, IMB missionaries ministering to American Peoples in Peru through community, church and home outreach and encounter evangelism.

Pray for: **Janet Hol-loway***, IMB missionary ministering to European Peoples in Russia through student evangelism.

Pray for a team of 20 from **Longview Heights BC, Olive Branch**, traveling to Ukraine to minister through medical care and construction, May 3-13.

Pray for: **Clarence Frank and Phoebe* Harrison**, IMB missionaries ministering to American Peoples in Honduras through church planting, church and home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: **Brian* and Felicia* Henderson**, IMB missionaries ministering to American Peoples in Peru through church and home outreach and evangelism; and serving through regional office support.

*These International Mission Board missionaries claim Mississippi as their home state. The IMB missionaries listed in the HouseTops prayer calendar are currently active in 2-4 year terms or in career service.

MISSISSIPPI WMU LEADERSHIP TRAINING 2012

August 9 — Church Missions Leadership Training
FBC, Starkville, Golden Triangle Association

August 17-18 — Annual Missions Celebration, featuring
• WMU Annual Meeting
• Associational Missions Leadership Training
• Church Missions Leadership Training
at Garaywa Camp & Conference Center in Clinton

August 23 — Church Missions Leadership Training
Clarksdale Baptist Church

August 30 — Church Missions Leadership Training
FBC, Gulfport
Gulf Coast Association

Celebrate the Story

ANNOUNCING NEW DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 20
COLISEUM, JACKSON • 6:30 P.M.

Youth Night 2012

Speaker: **Stuart Hall**

Music: **Kristian Stanfill**

Transformational Sunday School

Transformational Sunday School Training
July 14, 21, 28; August 11, 18, 25; September 8, 15, 22

Make your plans now to attend Sunday School training designed with the needs of your church in mind. Planning teams work with local church and association leaders in each region of the state to prayerfully determine the needs of your church. Each conference is customized with those needs in mind. Specific conferences will be announced as needs are discovered.

HOUSE TOPS

An Enigma in the Mississippi Senate

How would you as Mississippi Baptists, all 689,602 of you, describe the activity or inactivity of the Mississippi Senate this session?

We all knew it would take some time for the freshmen lawmakers and first-term Lt. Governor Tate Reeves to get a handle on the legislative process. However, we are now into the fourth month of the 2012 session, and many of us are still at a loss on what to expect from the Senate.

Is it time someone in the news media to ask some hard questions? Personally, I think so!

What has happened to those senators who supported Billy Hewes in his failed bid for Lt. Governor in the last election? It appears some very promising young senators who did not support the current leadership have been

silenced. And some of those who were neutral in the election process have been sent to the back of the room. Is this just petty politics?

Are the bills coming out of, and the bills that die in, Senate committees required to have the Lt. Governor's personal stamp of approval or disapproval? Each senator is elected and sent to the Capitol by his/her constituents and expected to be a part of the democratic process, but it appears the voices of many have been marginalized.

To those of us who have watched the legislative process for several years now, the word "enigmatic" comes to mind.



with Jimmy Porter

Enigmatic means puzzling. One example is that pro-life bills have died in the Senate this year. Our Lt. Governor ran as a pro-life candidate. That's puzzling.

House Bill 16, known as the Child Protection Act, is a bill we have worked on for several years, and in this session supporters for the first time were able to get it passed in the House of Representatives. It went to the Senate and was placed in Judiciary A Committee with Senator Briggs Hopson of Vicksburg as chairman. There the

bill was stripped of its significance by removing the mandate to retain a DNA sample to be used in the prosecution of adult men who prey on young girls and impregnate them. Puzzling, to say the least.

If you are wondering how this can happen, perhaps the following observation will enlighten you. There is one great big old elephant roaming around in the Senate chamber, and its name is "Redistricting." The person chairing that committee is Senator Merle Flowers of Southaven, who is a very strong supporter of and a part of the current leadership. Connect the dots and you can

easily see that if a senator is not in step with leadership decisions, the potential exists for that rebellious senator to be redrawn out of his/her present district or thrown into a district where he/she might have to run against a stronger incumbent.

No one would ever come out and say that publicly, but it doesn't have to be said around those who understand how the political game is played. Redistricting can be a very powerful threat to any nonconforming legislators.

The Senate is about to receive, for the third time this session, a pro-life bill known as the Heartbeat Bill. It would define abortion as child homicide if a heartbeat can be detected before the abortion. The language has been attached to another Senate bill, and it will be interesting to see if it will be killed again in Judiciary B Committee, as Chairman Hob Bryan of Amory has already done twice this session. There is no doubt the Senate would vote pro-life if the current leadership gives them the opportunity.

I predict that when redistricting is completed, you will see an entirely different Senate. There are too many men and women in that chamber who have strong convictions, and they will not continue to

be controlled or manipulated by anyone regardless of their position. The storm clouds may already be gathering on the horizon.

This article in no way is intended to detract from the very positive things that have happened during this legislative session. Earlier in the session, Dr. Jim Futral, Executive Director-Treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and I had the privilege of presenting a Bible with our Mississippi Baptist logo to each elected official. Their respective names were also embossed on their Bibles. They were very appreciative.

We have the best group of representatives and senators of any state in the Union. Some very positive legislation has occurred. There will probably be more before adjournment of the session.

Keep all of our public officials in your prayers, and if you have any questions give us a call at the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission.

Porter serves as executive director-treasurer for the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission. He can be contacted at 601-292-3332 or jporter@christianaction.com.

Need a light?

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Christ today, contact a local Southern Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Submission Guidelines

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts

are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either e-mail, CD or DVD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

the potential pay scale to a higher level for them and opens doors into that industry," Mabry said.

CWJC of Central Mississippi is one of 206 registered and certified CWJC/Christian Men's Job Corps (CMJC) sites across the country. CWJC and CMJC are ministries of the national Woman's Missionary Union that equip women and men, in a Christian context, for life and employment. Each participant is engaged in a weekly Bible study and is paired with a mentor for encouragement and accountability. Women mentor women in CWJC and men mentor men through CMJC.

In Mississippi, the programs are administered through the state's WMU office.

Mabry said she can see God's fingerprints all over the ministry in Mississippi. "God has been faithful in so many ways, from guiding us in a transition with our board of directors, to changing our curriculum this year to better fit the needs of our participants, to providing for our financial needs."

"We can never out give God. Our volunteers and mentors realize this as well with their service. Many of them come into this thinking they will be a blessing and find out they are the ones being blessed by being an example of Christ to hurting and lost women."

Many CWJC graduates also give back to the ministry because they know firsthand the impact it makes. One shining example is Annie Shirley, a pastor's wife who was living in a shelter with

her children after her husband died because she had no means of supporting her family.

She discovered CWJC of Central Mississippi, graduated from the program in 2004, went on to earn a college degree, and now gives back to other women in her community as she serves as president of the board of CWJC of Central Mississippi.

CWJC also is personal for Mabry. "I lead in this ministry because of my own personal journey. My mother was 15 and unwed when I was born. She had no job skills and dropped out of school in the 10th grade. She struggled with making many bad choices, but she did the best she could with what she had."

"I followed her pattern by making bad choices of my own as I became a teenager and started doing drugs and get-

ting involved with adult men. I had some Christian encounters sprinkled throughout my life, but it was in 1999 when I married my second husband that some Christian women started pouring into my life and telling me God had a plan for me."

"That is when I decided to give Jesus a try."

Jesus began working in her life, Mabry said, and she started telling others about His love and praying with them. "That's when I thought to myself, 'What if my mom would have had someone to help her? ...How different my journey would have been.'"

Soon after that, Mabry learned about CWJC of Central Mississippi and their need for a site coordinator. "I ran as fast as I could, telling God I wasn't ready, but He told me I was and women needed to hear my story about His love,

mercy, and grace in my life, and how He transformed me. This ministry is my testimony."

Current needs at the site include monthly donations and more volunteers, Mabry said. "It's expensive educating an adult who has no resources and limited education. The expenses we cover range from insurance to general office supplies like pens and paper for us and participants."

"We also need some mature Christian women to pour their experience with Christ in their own lives into these ladies we are teaching."

To learn more about CWJC of Central Mississippi, call (601) 259-9980 or email rob-inmabry@rocketmail.com. To locate a nearby site, visit www.wmu.com/jobcorps.

✓ *Performance* through the years

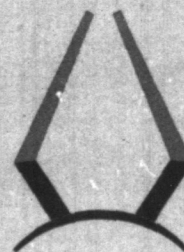
✓ *Values* through shared beliefs

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Christianity 104: Be Good Neighbors • Luke 10:25-37

A teacher once pulled a nasty trick on us at Crowder Junior High. Miss Shaw gave us a pop quiz that she claimed would count as a high percentage of our grade, that was a pass/fail scenario, and that had a ridiculous time limit. In the panic that ensued, all but one classmate failed to heed her final instruction, to make sure to read the instructions at the top of the test before beginning. When that timer started, there was an audible screeching and a fog of carbon dust raised from the racing pencil leads fighting for traction on paper. The only person that actually read the instructions did as the test instructed, ignore the rest of the test. We were defeated by our own ambition. This week's Sunday School lesson hit me in much the same way.

The writer pulls from the story of the Good Samaritan. No problem, I've heard and preached on that story countless times. I have lots to say about it. Recalling my "schooling" by Miss Shaw, I prepared anyway. Gentle teachers, if you are not taking advantage of the free "Extra for Sunday School" resource available through lifeway.com, this is a good week to give it a try. My confidence was quickly wiped out by the Extra resource and God was once again in the driver's seat where

He belongs. My challenge, it turns out, was to explore God's definition of a good neighbor. To find out, we must first:

Follow the Scripture, Luke 10:25-28. Jesus fires a withering shot over the bow of the Jewish leaders and us. His statement in verse 28 says it all. You have sufficient

knowledge, take the next step and do! His main critique of the Jews was their expansive knowledge of God's law, their obsessive observance of the law's ordinances, and nary a fruit to show for it. To claim faith without also feeling drawn to meet the needs of others is a contradiction.

Listen to Jesus, Luke 10:29-35. Jesus gives an analogy of finding someone in need and how all the "good" Jews that came along ignored the man bleeding in the ditch. Do not underestimate the hostility between the Jews' and Sa-

maritans. If Jesus were to tell this story in our Churches today, He would talk about the Pastor and Deacon that crossed on the other side of the road and the Muslim or Satanist that stopped and helped. The contrast is that great.

Show Compassion, Luke 10:36-

37. Notice that the legal expert will not even say the word, "Samaritan." The neighbor is, "the one who showed mercy," he

says. Jesus often asked those He taught to come to a conclusion that is difficult to admit. Some chose to storm off or react violently rather than admit their flaw. He still asks us to come to difficult conclusions. Those that admit to Jesus' accusation are always better off for it. Ignoring or storming off only makes matters worse and prolongs our suffering. He concludes this exchange in verse 37 by repeating the command, "Go and do."

Jesus does not define "neighbor" in terms of those that live within close proximity to us or those that we like or agree with. (see Matthew 5:43-48 to help with this discussion) In our world a "good" neighbor is the one that follows the rules and keep to themselves. A good neighbor is the one that never costs us anything. That is opposite to the definition of the word Jesus uses. Being a good neighbor in God's Kingdom does not mean keeping to ourselves and tending only to our own. It also does not mean showing mercy only to those "worthy" of it, that ask for it, that are grateful for it, or whose needs do not ask more than we are prepared to give.

For Discussion: 1. Describe the person that feels like they know all they need to know about the Bible. What will they get out of Church? What do they contribute to Church? Is this person acknowledging Christ or stomping away? 2. What would happen if you missed church or showed up late and dirty because you stopped to help someone on your way there? Which would God prefer? 3. Who are you afraid to help and why? What promises did Jesus make to overcome those fears?

Mitchell is pastor of Main Street Church, Goodman.



Explore the Bible
with Kelly Mitchell

Jesus Works Through His Church • Matthew 16:13-19; 28:18-20

The first time I heard the word "church" I was a very young preschooler sitting on my grandmother's lap. She put her arms around me and showed me how to fold my fingers at the knuckles and entwine them together closely. That positioned both thumbs facing me. Helping me hold them close she said, "Here's the church." Then she did the same with her hands on the other side of mine and I was watching closely. In her soft little voice she said slowly: "Here's the church, Here's the steeple (both forefingers pointed up), Open the doors (thumbs came apart and hands opened), And here's all the people! (producing fingers representing the congregation). I looked up at her and smiled. Of course I wanted to do it a dozen more times. Her warm lap, loving arms, and sweet smile gave me a love for the church I've only grown to understand even more for all my life. As I make that little church with my hands now, I can remember the sound of her voice. She spoke slowly about the church and steeple, but sounded excited when she said, "And here's all the people!" The people were my favorite part, and for sure the most important. What is the most important part of church for you? Nice buildings, comfortable seating, soothing room colors? Think about that this week.

Jesus' Work Misunderstood Matthew 16:13-14

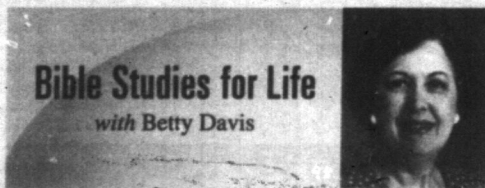
God had a purpose for creating people. He could have accomplished the purpose Himself, but sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to carry out His plan. Jesus grew up as did all Jewish boys, studying Old Testament Scripture. As He matured, He became

more aware of His mission. He tried to help the people understand what His life's purpose was, but they

couldn't seem to grasp His teachings. As Jesus and His disciples were walking near Caesarea Philippi, Jesus asked them, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" (v.13) They answered that some said John the Baptist, others, Elijah, and still others thought He was Jeremiah or one of the prophets. (v. 14) "John the Baptist was Jesus' cousin (Luke 1:13) who came to preach repentance and prepare the way for Jesus. Elijah was a well-loved prophet of Israel who stood for God against false religious leaders and kings. Jeremiah

was a great Old Testament prophet who preached judgment for sins of the people. But like a lot of prophets, their warnings were ignored." (Holman Student Bible Dictionary). So those who saw Jesus' works still misunderstood who He was and why He was more than just a good man, teacher or prophet. We should

be aware of people around us today who misunderstand Jesus' work, and be ready to tell them why Jesus came.



Bible Studies for Life
with Betty Davis

Jesus' Work Manifested Matthew 16:15-19

Manifested means Jesus' work is easy to recognize. Jesus was probably wondering who His disciples thought He was when He asked, "Who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter, the spokesman for the disciples usually answered for all of them: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God." Obviously, Jesus' teaching had penetrated His disciples' minds. Then looking at Peter, Jesus said, "Simon, you are blessed because you didn't learn that from any earthly

source. My Father in Heaven revealed that truth to you". (v.17) Jesus wanted all of them to be prepared to confess that truth with everyone they knew or met. In verse 18, Jesus spoke directly saying, "Peter, on this rock I will build my church, and the forces of hades (hell) will not over power it". What was Jesus referring to? A building is not considered "the church", but rather the believers and followers of Christ who worship there. (Romans 16:5) Many Bible scholars believe Jesus' reference to "the rock" to be the truth Peter had just declared about Jesus. If we as believers confess who Christ is, we give others access to the kingdom. Our not confessing means we deny people access to the kingdom.

Jesus' Work Mandated Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus told the disciples He had all authority in heaven and on earth. He commanded them to "Go...make disciples of all nations...baptize them...Teach them all I have commanded you". (vv. 19-20) Do you believe the Great Commission from Jesus applies to us today? If you feel incompetent, trust Jesus' promise in Verse 20. "I am with you always, to the end of the age," (HCSB).

Davis is a member of Fellowship Church, Meridian.

SBC

cont. from p. 1

think unless they are reaching their neighborhood first, they don't have the right to focus on going to the nations," Wright continued, noting: "This is a specifically-worded theme. Christ is clear. We are to focus on both. It is

not either/or. It is both/and. They ought to be our focus all the time."

A radical reprioritization of Christ's Great Commission is Wright's prayer for the mission focus of the annual meeting, to be held at New Orleans' Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

"I'm praying this will be Spirit-led," Wright said, and that there will be "a powerful conviction of

the Holy Spirit as we focus on carrying out Christ's Great Commission in a unified spirit."

Wright chose the passage from the book of Luke to expound on the disciple Luke's frequently quoted rendering of the Great Commission in Acts 1:8.

"That's the beauty of the Gospels, to look at parallel teachings in different Gospels. It gives us

a sense of freshness, an understanding of what Jesus is teaching us. Lord willing, I intend to preach on this expression of the Great Commission in my convention sermon," Wright said, referring to the president's address on Tuesday during the convention.

"I think it just allows us to expound more on the very

crisp, clear mission Jesus gives us in Acts 1:8."

Wright, senior pastor of the Atlanta-area Johnson Ferry Church in Marietta, Ga., will conclude his second one-year term as SBC president during the New Orleans annual meeting and is constitutionally eligible for a third term. No candidates have yet been announced for the post.

Just for the Record



AT LEFT: Mt. Olive Church, Baldwin, presented the drama, *He Lives*, Mar. 31 and Apr. 1. Approximately 80 members participated in the presentation. Kenneth Leslie, minister of music; David Haynes, pastor.

In other Church News:

► The Master's Hands puppet ministry of **Tangipahoa Church, Summit**, will present *Our Chains are Broken* Apr. 28, 6 p.m., at the Mt. Pisgah Church, Mt. Hermon, La.

College News



Thirty **Blue Mountain College** ministerial students have been awarded James L. Travis Scholarships for the 2012-13 academic year: John Baker of Dumas; Zach Brock of Myrtle; Gabe Dence of Millington, Tenn.; Thomas Doughty of Columbus; Aaron Fisher of Russellville, Ala.; Robbie Foy of Oakland, Tenn.; Jon Gilley of Town Creek, Ala.; Bob Gregory of Tupelo; Jonathan Greer of Ripley; Corey Hall of New Albany; Alex Hastings of Madison, Ala.; Cyle Haulcomb of Shannon; Casey Keister of Stanwood, Wash.; James Kimmett of Pontotoc; Jay Knight of Pontotoc; Justin Lewis of Southaven; Dalton McArn of Ripley; Stacy McKee of Ripley; Nathan Maynard of El Reno, Okla.; Trent Nethery Jr. of Corinth; Joshua Ray of Cordova, Tenn.; Ross Phillips of Corinth; Ryan Reed of Pocahton, Tenn.; Kevin Ripple of Savannah, Tenn.; Jeremiah Ross of New Albany; Justin Simmons of Amory; Matt Tyer of Nettleton; Bryce Vigus of Arlington, Tenn.; Reece Ward of Randolph; and Justin Watson of Baldwin.



William Carey University will recognize endowed scholarship recipients at the Honors Day Convocation on April 25 at 10 a.m. in Smith Auditorium. Donors of endowed scholarships will also be recognized in the convocation. A total of 144 endowed and restricted scholarships benefited 326 students during 2011-2012. Pictured are 64 of the recipients.

In other College News:

► This fall, **Mississippi College** will offer the first classes leading towards a doctor of professional counseling degree on the Clinton campus. The clinical doctorate is designed to advance the career goals of professional counselors wishing to develop a specialization. For more information, contact Stephen Southern at southern@mc.edu or (601) 925-3843 or Don Locke at locke@mc.edu or (601) 925-3402.

Revivals & Homecomings

► **Dublin Church, Carson:** 100th anniversary and revival, May 6-9; Sun., services, 10 a.m., followed by lunch; Jim Futral, speaker; services, 7 p.m. nightly; Danny Henderson, Archie Herrin, Nathan L. Barber, speakers; Lyn Holloway, music.

► **Neshoba Church, Union:** Revival, Apr. 22-29; Sun., 11 a.m.; 6:45 p.m. nightly; Wayne Hudson, speaker; John Yates, music.

► **Harmony Church, Carroll County:** Homecoming, Apr. 29, 11 a.m., followed by dinner on the ground; Larry Edwards, speaker.

► **Gumpond Church, Lumberton:** Revival, Apr. 27-29; Fri.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; fellowship meals Fri., 6 p.m. and Sat. noon; Brad Miles, Ed King, and Billy Kent Smith, speakers; The Riders, music.

► **Liberty Hill Church, Pope:** Revival, Apr. 29-May 2; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Gene Henderson, speaker; Ken Trussell, music; Jay Anderson, pastor.

► **Poplar Springs Church, Mendenhall:** Revival, Apr. 22-25; 7 p.m. nightly; Jerry Chaddick, speaker; Jason & Denise Kelly, music; Ted C. Bowlin, pastor.

► **Tuscola Church, Leake Association:** Revival, Apr. 22-25; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by fellowship lunch and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jason Jones, speaker; Amelia Langford, music; Smith Sanders, pastor.

► **Crowder Church, Crowder:** Homecoming, Apr. 22, 10:30 a.m.; Keith Bolen, speaker; Ken Trussell, music; Larry Kilgore, pastor.

► **Hurricane Creek Church, Sandy Hook:** Revival, Apr. 22-25; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Carrol Robertson, speaker; Curtis Roland, pastor.

► **Society Hill Church, Oakvale:** Revival, Apr. 29-May 2; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Danny Stephens, speaker; Wesley Lee, music; Ralph Sanford, interim pastor; Billy Paul Cooper, minister of music.

► **Salem Church, Kemper County:** Homecoming, May 6; services, 10:30 a.m., followed by potluck dinner.

► **Liberty Church, Carrollton:** Revival, Apr. 22-25; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Gary Bunch, speaker; Doug Fletcher, music; Gary Tanner, pastor.